

ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS
NOT DESIGNATED FOR PUBLICATION
ROBERT J. GLADWIN, JUDGE

DIVISION II

CA07-1021

DEANNA HALLMAN and
CHRISTOPHER JONES
APPELLANTS

FEBRUARY 20, 2008

APPEAL FROM THE JEFFERSON
COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
[NO. JV2007-43-06]

V.

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES
APPELLEE

HON. THOMAS BROWN,
CIRCUIT JUDGE

AFFIRMED

Appellants Deanna Hallman and Christopher Jones appeal from the termination of their parental rights in JJ. We affirm.

Deanna Hallman gave birth to JJ on February 3, 2007, while in prison for possession of methamphetamine. She admitted to using drugs while pregnant. At the time of the termination hearing on June 7, 2007, she had just received a six-year sentence on another drug-possession charge. Additionally, her criminal history showed several prior convictions for drug possession and forgery. Her parental rights in two other children were terminated in 2005 based on her failure to comply with the case plan or avail herself of DHS services. She attributed these failures to her “addiction” and said she had not attended the termination

hearing in that case. Hallman testified in this case that she would be released from prison by February 2008, but the trial judge did not find her testimony credible.

Christopher Jones, JJ's father, was also in prison when the child was born. At the time of the termination hearing, he was serving thirteen years for aggravated assault and possession of methamphetamine with intent to deliver. Jones testified that he was addicted to methamphetamine and had been a user for twenty years. According to Jones, he would be released from prison as early as 2009, but the judge found this testimony incredible as well.

Adoption specialist Glenda Shavers testified that JJ was a healthy infant and had a good likelihood of being adopted. She said she had identified people interested in adopting him.

The only substantial issue in this appeal is the sufficiency of the evidence to support the termination of appellants' parental rights. Having determined that the trial court did not clearly err in finding that termination was in JJ's best interest and that at least one statutory ground for termination was proven, we affirm by memorandum opinion. *See In re Memorandum Opinions*, 16 Ark. App. 301, 700 S.W.2d 63 (1985).

Affirmed.

ROBBINS and HEFFLEY, JJ., agree.